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SECURITY INFORMATION

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German Democratic Republic

FDD Abstract

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MARCH 1952 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS REPORT (German; 2 pp; [REDACTED])

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During March the price of eggs in HO stores was reduced from 60-70 pfennigs to 45 pfennigs each. This measure was necessary because of the shortage of packing materials for eggs. The farmers have to store eggs in tubs, pans and even on the bare ground. This has caused great losses, and in order to move the eggs as fast as possible, the price was reduced.

The potato situation is in an even worse state. There are hardly any supplies left to feed the population of the GDR until the new crop is harvested. In some instances, potatoes stored by private individuals have been confiscated and shipped to the cities. Seed potatoes are even shorter in supply. It had been expected that seed potatoes would be exchanged for potatoes for consumption, but since the farmers have neither kind left, this will be impossible. The potato shortage is blamed on the fact that 100,000 tons of potatoes had to be shipped to Poland and 50,000 tons to Czechoslovakia.

The meat supply situation is disastrous, for the simple reason that the farmers were given delivery quotas which they simply cannot fulfill.

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21 May 1952

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